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Sen Docs #367

IN SENATE
OF
THE UNITED STATES.

January 10, 1817

Read, and ordered to be printed for the use
of the Senate.

Treasury Department,

January 9th, 1817.

Sir,

In obedience to the resolution of the Senate of the 19th ult. relative to the administration of the fund for the relief of sick and disabled seamen, I have the honour to transmit the papers marked A and B.

From the first it will appear that the fund appropriated for that object has been more than equal to the demands which have been made upon it, notwithstanding the great diminution of the fund during the years 1813, 1814, & 1815.

I have the honour to be,

Your most obedient, and

Very humble servant,

WM. H. CRAWFORD.

The honourable John Gaillard,

President of the Senate pro. tem.

(A.)

A VIEW

Of the means, at present in operation, for affording relief to the sick and disabled seamen of the United States.

Portsmouth, N. H.

Amount expended in
the year 1815.

The sick seamen are boarded in private houses, and attended by physicians paid at the customary rates, . \$79 03

Portland, Maine.

Seamen boarded in private houses, at two and three dollars a week, . 282 83

Boston.

A hospital built and supported at the expense of the United States, with a surgeon, who is paid \$1,000 a year, a steward, who is paid \$500 a year, with a matron, nurse, cooks, &c. 4,840 14

Providence.

Sick seamen boarded in private houses and attended by a physician by contract, for \$200 a year, including necessary medicines, . 340 01

Newport.

Sick seamen furnished with board at the alms-house, at \$3 12½ per week, the physicians' attendance, medicines, hospital stores, clothing, &c. are a separate charge, . . . 232 50

New-London.

Sick seamen boarded in private houses, at \$2 50 and \$3 a week, a physician attends the whole and furnishes medicines' by contract, for \$200 a year, 630 99

Middletown.

Seamen boarded at private houses, at two and three dollars a week, physicians' charges separate, 80 65

New-York.

The seamen are received in the New-York hospital, where all expenses are borne, except funeral charges, clothing, and the pay of a superintendent of seamen, at \$250 a year, for \$3 a week for each seaman; for insane seamen, an additional charge of \$1 50 a week is made, . . . 6,530 06

Philadelphia.

The sick seamen are received in the Pennsylvania hospital, and all ex-

penses are borne, except those for interment and clothing, for \$3 50 a week for each seaman, . 7,239 16

Baltimore.

The sick seamen are received at the city hospital, cost of support averages about 50 cents a day per man, exclusive of expense for interment and clothing, . 11,367 14

Norfolk.

A hospital, purchased and supported by the United States, with a physician at an annual salary of \$840 dollars, an assistant at \$600, a steward, nurse, &c. Provisions for the sick, are furnished by a purveyor, at 25 cents a day for each seamen, . 4,836 60

Camden, N. C.

Sick seamen boarded in private houses, at two and three dollars a week; the physicians paid separately, . 724 65

Edenton.

Same as the last—board three dollars a week, . 357 48

Beaufort, N. C.

Same as the last—board four dollars a week, . 83 83

Washington, N. C.

Same as the last—board two dollars and
fifty cent's and three dollars a week, 53 78

Wilmington, N. C.

Sick seamen, same as the last—board
\$3 50 a week, . . . 448 77

Charleston.

The nett amount collected in the port is
paid to the city treasurer, the corpo-
ration engaging to receive and sup-
ply such seamen as are objects of re-
lief, from this fund, . . . 400 11

Savannah.

Sick seamen are received in the Savan-
nah Hospital, and furnished with ev-
ery thing, at the rate of \$ 4 50, a
week, each, . . . 1,147 21

New-Orleans.

The sick seamen are received in the hos-
pital of the charity, and there supplied
with what is necessary, except medi-
cal attendance, at the rate of 75 cents
a day, each; a surgeon is paid by
the United States, at the rate of 1,000
dollars a year, . . . 3,976 61

Total, Dollars, 43,651 55

STATEMENT

Of moneys collected for the Relief Sick and Disabled Seamen, and the amount expended in relation thereto, from the Year 1802, to 1815, inclusive.

	Moneys Collected.			Moneys Expended		
In the Year.....	1802	109,954	56		250	00
	1803	54,933	21		31,087	36
	1804	58,210	98		84,027	50
	1805	58,005	98		59,828	41
	1806	66,820	01		53,281	98
	1807	61,474	47		65,571	51
	1808	36,515	44		60,883	14
	1809	74,192	42		70,901	75
	1810	54,309	31		36,793	60
	1811	54,586	34		57,109	08
	1812	42,421	46		57,723	11
	1813	21,789	57		53,376	87
	1814	10,280	73		45,226	50
	1815	28,306	16		43,651	55

Total.....Dollars.....	731,800	65	719,212	38
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Total amount of moneys collected,	731,800	65
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From which deduct amount of moneys expended,	719,212	38
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Balance,	12,588	27
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In addition to the moneys received by the collectors for the years 1813, 1814, and 1815, there was appropriated by Congress 20,000 dollars in

	<i>Brought forward,</i>	12,588 27
aid of the fund for each of those		
years,		60,000 00
		<hr/>

By which it would appear that there
 is a balance remaining, of . . . \$ 72,588 27

*Treasury Department,
 Register's Office, December 30, 1816.*

JOSEPH NOURSE, Register.

(B.)

Copy.

Treasury Department, May 21th, 1799.

Sir,

I herewith transmit a copy of an act of Congress, passed on the second of March last, entitled "An act in addition to an act for the relief of sick and disabled seamen."

It was hoped that an arrangement could have been formed before this time for the establishment of permanent hospitals. It appears, however, that this subject has been placed by the act of the last session "to regulate the medical establishment," under the immediate superintendence of the physician-general; the object of this communication is therefore confined to a provision for the *temporary relief* and support of sick and disabled seamen in public and private service.

For the present, and until experience shall have shown the expediency of a different arrangement, the moneys collected in the States of Pennsylvania and Delaware, and in the western districts of New-Jersey, will be expended under your direction, at or near Philadelphia; and accordingly the sums collected at the out-ports, will, from time to time, be placed in your hands in pursuance of special directions, of which you will be advised.

The persons entitled to relief from the fund, are officers, seamen, and marines of the navy of the United States, and masters, mariners, and seamen employed in private or merchant vessels.

I think proper to mention that there may be

some danger of a diversion of the fund for the maintenance of persons who ought to be relieved as paupers under municipal regulations. As abuses of this kind, if practised to any considerable extent, will defeat the humane intentions of Congress, in the establishment of permanent hospitals, for the support of disabled seamen, this ought to be carefully prevented.

It is, however, the object of the law, that the expenditure of the fund for temporary relief should be made at the hospitals, or other proper institutions now established in the ports of the United States. You will, of course, endeavour to fix, by precise agreements, the conditions upon which the sick and disabled seamen should be received and supplied with whatever their necessities may require, and will transmit the copies of the contracts which may be formed to this office. In cases where agreements cannot be made, you will pursue established usages respecting similar expenditures, observing all possible economy.

It is not expected that you should personally superintend the details of expenditure; an agreement, therefore, with some individual or corporation that the fund shall be properly applied, appears to be indispensable. The accounts must be rendered to you at least quarterly, supported by such vouchers as are usual, and as circumstances will admit of being taken; which, after examination, will be paid out of the moneys in your hands.

You will be pleased to keep all your accounts of receipts and expenditures for this fund distinct from your other accounts. The quarterly abstracts of the fund are to be rendered agreeably to the form prescribed by the letter of the comptroller of the Treasury, dated the 19th of September, 1798; the quarterly accounts of expenditure are

to be rendered agreeably to the subjoined form, and the whole regularly introduced into an account current, which is to be transmitted every quarter.

I am, very respectfully, Sir,
Your obedient servant.

George Lattimer, esq.
Collector of Philadelphia.

*Abstract of moneys paid for the relief of sick and disabled seamen, by
collector of the customs for the district of in the State of
from to*

Date of pay- ment.	No. of vouchers.	To whom paid.	Number of persons supplied.		Time supplied.		Amount paid.
			Of the Navy.	In private service.	months.	days.	
							11

[Letters of the same tenor were written to the collectors of the principal collection districts, with the variations which were required by the locality of their situations.]

Med. Hist.

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